



CHARLES COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
**Department of Recreation, Parks & Tourism**

**Eileen B. Minnick**  
Director

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**MEMORANDUM**

To: Maryland Department of Planning, Comprehensive Planning Unit  
Maryland Department of Natural Resources/Program Open Space

From: John T. Snow, Chief of Parks & Grounds  
Charles County Department of Recreation, Parks & Tourism

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "JTS", is placed next to the "From:" line.

Subject: Annual Program Report  
Charles County

Date: June 13, 2019

Enclosed please find Charles County's Annual Program Report for FY20. After your review, please contact me directly if you should have any questions (301-932-3474).

Thank you.

Enclosure: As stated  
JTS/bdd/AnnualReportFY20

**FY20**  
**ANNUAL REPORT - CHARLES COUNTY**

**Introduction**

Each year Charles County Government develops/updates a five-year open space/park acquisition and development plan. This plan is designed to address solutions to citizen demands for outdoor recreational facilities. This five-year plan is basically a park priority list formulated as a result of direct citizen input, public hearings, and meetings with organized recreation associations.

Charles County's open space priorities include: providing active and passive outdoor recreation opportunities for our residents; preserving natural heritage areas; and protecting sensitive and unique environmental features of the County.

The projects selected in this annual report are consistent with the County's current Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP). The LPPRP clearly states that the demand for active recreation facilities continues to grow and that there is an immediate need to plan and develop such facilities. Athletic playing fields and hiking/biking trails have not kept pace with the County's rapid population growth. Additionally, the LPPRP calls for more open space acquisition and recreational facilities throughout the County. Recreational demands continue to grow in our area, specifically in the greater Waldorf and La Plata communities. Water access amenities continue to be a priority as well.

Charles County's priority open space plan is compiled by the Department of Recreation, Parks & Tourism, Parks and Grounds Division.

Attached is Charles County's Annual Program Report for FY20:

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Acquisition: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Popes Creek Waterfront Acquisition</li><li>•Mattawoman Creek Kayak Launch Acquisition</li><li>•Popes Creek Eastern Trailhead Parking Area Acquisition</li></ul> |
| Development: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gilbert Run Park – Boardwalk Rehabilitation</li><li>•Popes Creek Waterfront Phase II</li><li>• Playground Revitalization Program</li></ul>                     |

# **Charles County**

**Department of Recreation, Parks & Tourism**

## **FY 2020 Annual Program**

### **ACQUISITION**

10

[illegible]

## **ACQUISITION – FY 20**

**Charles County Government  
Department of Recreation, Parks & Tourism**

### **Project: Popes Creek Waterfront Acquisition – Phase II**

The Popes Creek area in Charles County has significant potential as a major water access destination in the region. The Department of Recreation, Parks & Tourism is currently in the design phase of the Popes Creek Rail Trail and the Popes Creek Waterfront Park (Phase I).

Charles County has now been presented with the opportunity to acquire the third and final section of the proposed Popes Creek Waterfront Park.

This less than three-acre parcel includes a restaurant building (future waterman's museum, nature center and tourism venue), crabbing/fishing piers, restroom facilities and additional parking spaces which are vital to the Popes Creek Trail and waterfront park projects.

**Total Acreage: 2.7 Acres**

**Total Project Cost: \$1,800,000**

(We are requesting 100% POS funding for this acquisition.)

800,000 FT 0"

# Popes Creek Waterfront Acquisition

820,000 FT

76°57'30"



Google Maps

## Popes Creek Waterfront Acquisition



Imagery ©2017 Google, Map data ©2017 Google 200 ft

## **ACQUISITION – FY 20**

**Charles County Government  
Department of Recreation, Parks & Tourism**

### **Project: Mattawoman Creek Kayak Launch Acquisition**

The Mattawoman Creek Watershed is an important natural and outdoor recreational resource in Charles County. Access to watershed recreation is a goal of the County Commissioners and the Department of Recreation, Parks & Tourism.

Charles County Parks has now been presented with the opportunity to acquire a kayak launch facility owned and operated by the non-profit – Mason Springs Conservancy.

This 3.7 acre parcel is already in use as a public kayak launch and includes a small parking area and shoreline fishing opportunities on the banks of Mattawoman Creek.

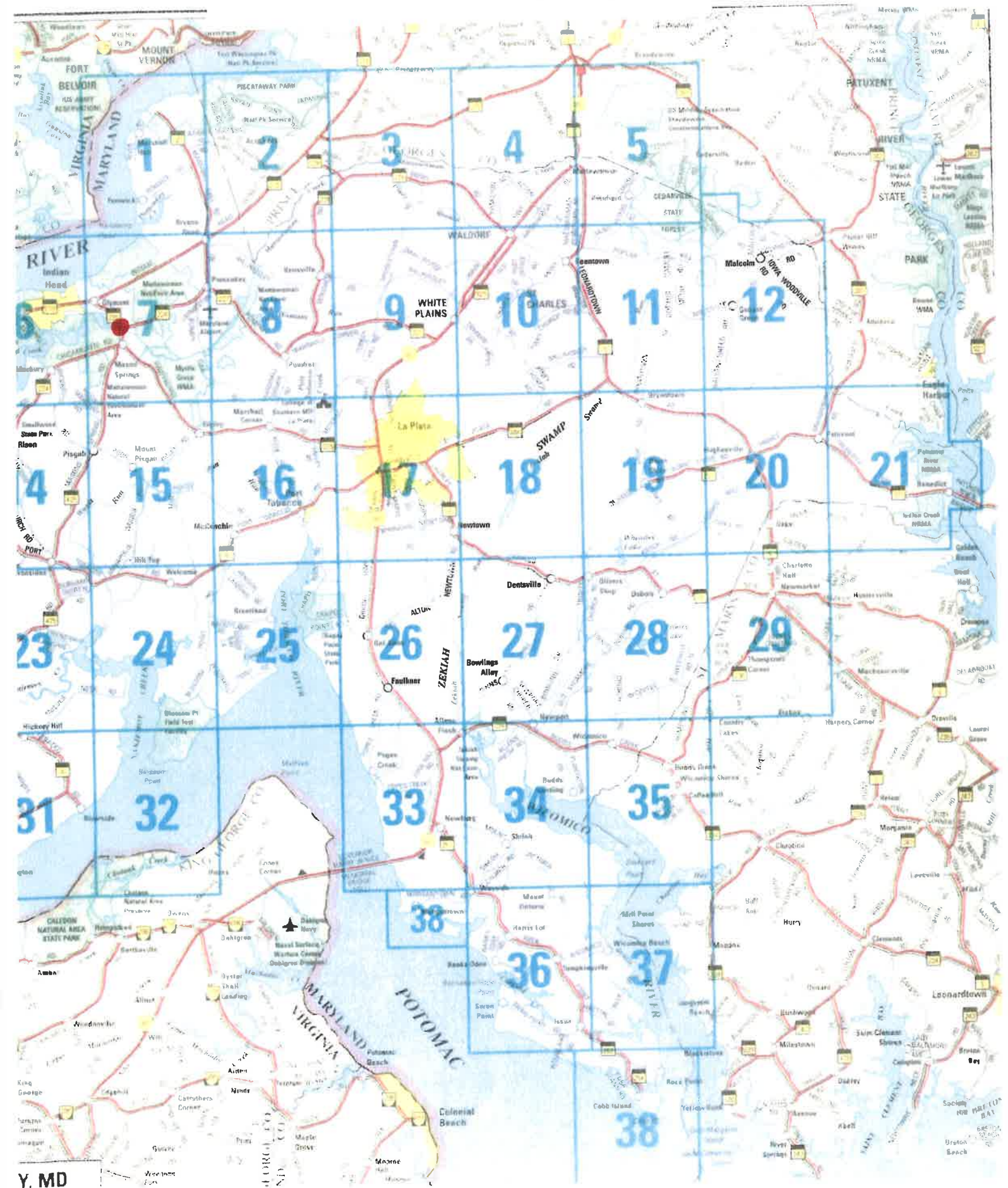
**Total Acreage: 3.7 Acres**

**Total Project Cost: \$25,000**

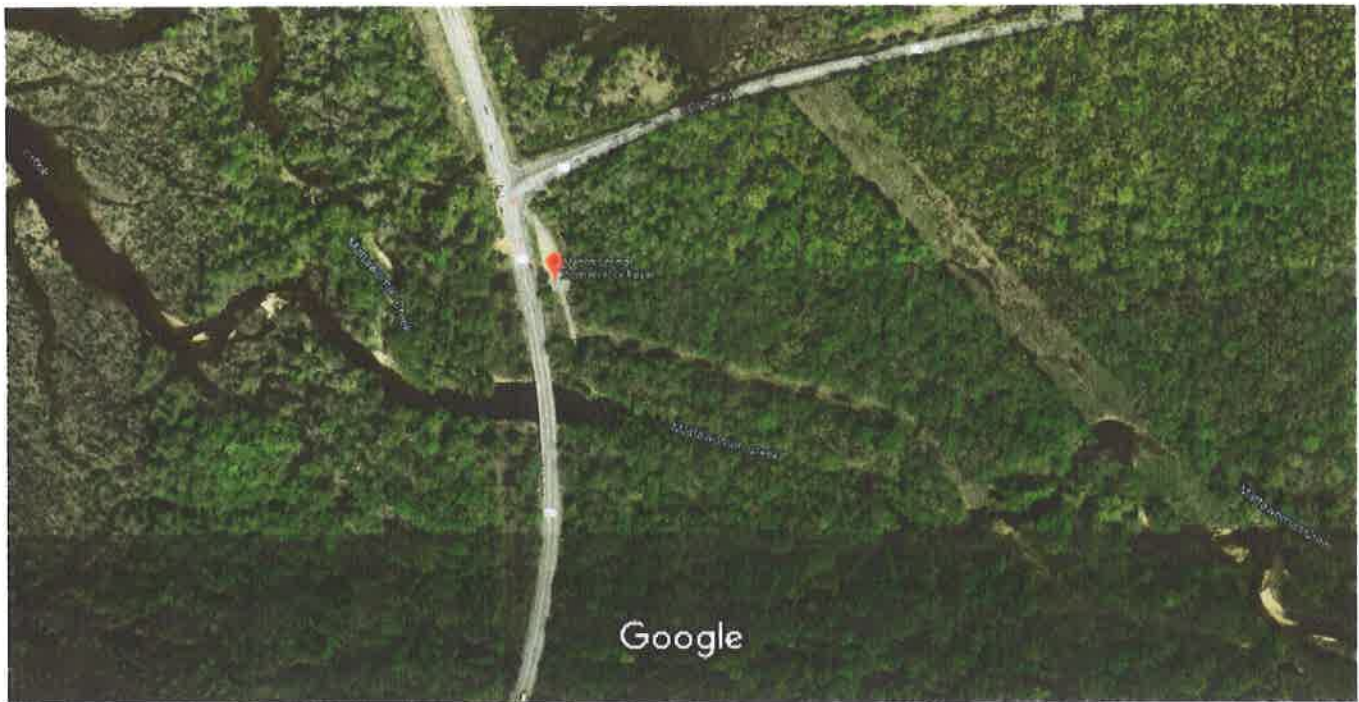
(We are requesting 100% POS funding for this acquisition.)



# Mason Springs Kayak Launch Acquisition



Google Maps Mason Springs Conservancy Kayak Launch



Imagery ©2019 Google, Map data ©2019 Google 100 ft

## **ACQUISITION – FY 20**

**Charles County Government  
Department of Recreation, Parks & Tourism**

### **Project: Popes Creek Eastern Trailhead Parking Area Acquisition**

The design, engineering and permitting phase of the Popes Creek Trail is anticipated to be completed by Spring 2020. The ultimate goal of this project has been a contiguous trail from the Popes Creek waterfront to the 301 corridor. However, the lack of a suitable site for parking and a trailhead on the 301 side has been an obstacle to completing the design of this outdoor recreation resource.

Charles County has been presented with the opportunity to acquire a 4 acre parcel adjacent to the trail property which would serve our needs for visitor parking and trail access.

Total Acreage: 4.0 Acres  
Total Project Cost: \$130,000

(We are requesting 100% POS funding for this acquisition.)

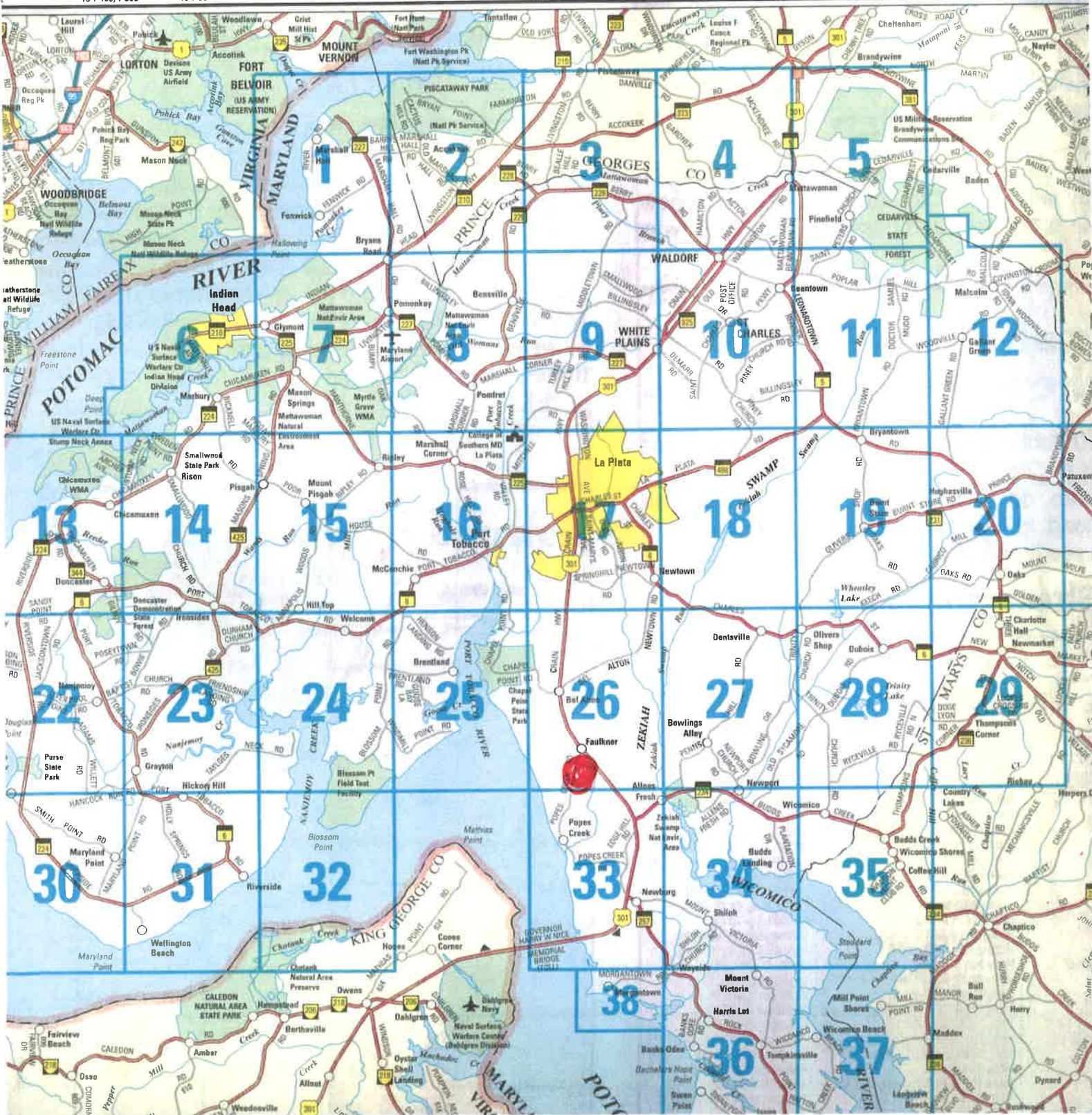


# CHARLES COUNTY, MD

## INDEX TO MAPS

Pages 2, 3 and 4 provide you a complete Step-by-Step guide to using your Street Map Book, Map Legend, Table of Contents and Key to Abbreviations. Take a few minutes to familiarize yourself with this time saving information.

To I-495, I-395 To I-95 To Alexandria To US 1 To I-95, I-495 To I-95, I-495 To MD 5 To I-95, I-495 To MD 4 To US 301





Google Maps Sodus Manor Pl



↑  
IRA.1  
Corridor

# **Charles County**

**Department of Recreation, Parks & Tourism**

## **FY 2020 Annual Program**

### **DEVELOPMENT**

## FISCAL YEAR 2020

[illegible]

**\*Pending Acquisition**

## **DEVELOPMENT – FY 20**

**Charles County Government  
Department of Recreation, Parks & Tourism**

**Project: Gilbert Run Park  
Boardwalk Rehabilitation – Phase II (Construction)**

Funding requested to replace approximately 300 feet of elevated boardwalk on the Gilbert Run Natural Trail. Phase II to include actual construction and materials.

Phase I (Design) is anticipated to be completed in December 2019. Construction is planned for Spring 2020.

The nature trail at Gilbert Run Park is 2.50 miles long and is a very popular feature at this busy, nature-themed outdoor recreational facility. The boardwalk portion of this trail is in poor condition and needs to be replaced.

**Total Project Cost (Construction): \$240,000.00**

**(Requesting \$180,000 POS funding to match \$60,000 Local Share)**

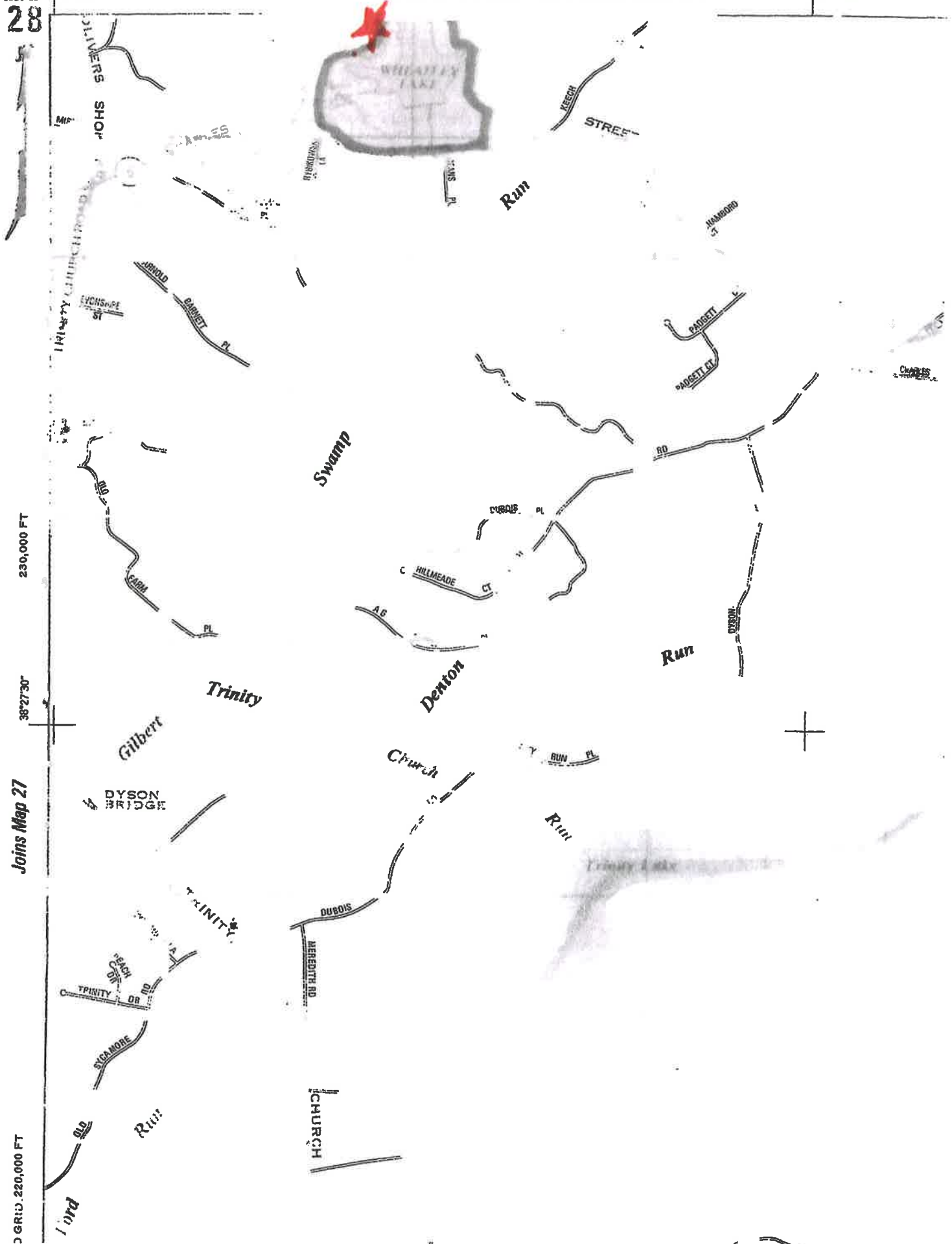


# Board Walk Rehabilitation

MAP  
28

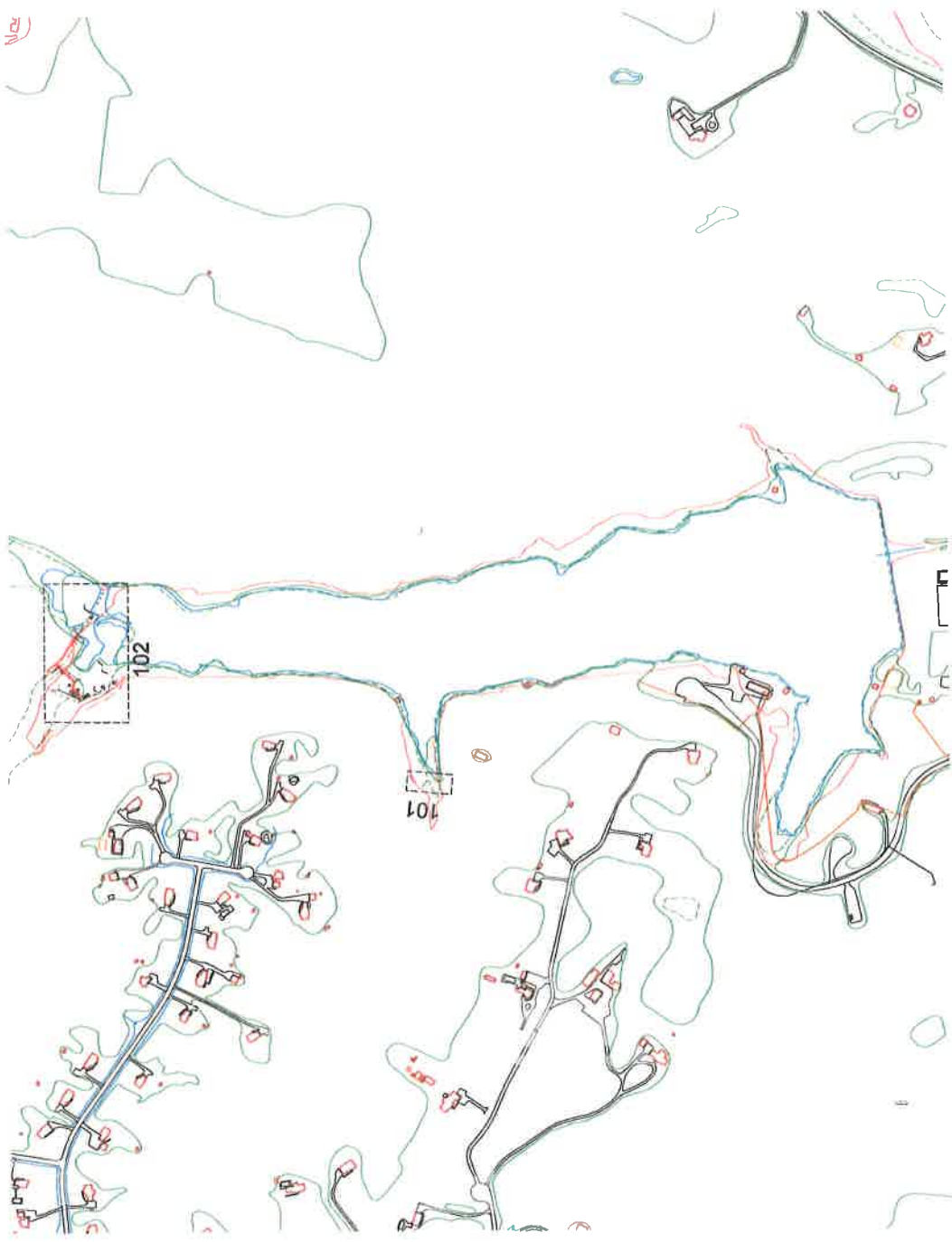
76°52'30"

76°52'00"



Joins Map 27

GRID 220,000 FT



**VISTA**  
DESIGN, INC.  
Engineers • Architects • Surveyors • Landscape Architects  
1100 West 12th Street, Suite 100  
Lawrence, KS 66044  
Phone: 781.333.3333 • Fax: 781.333.3334 • www.vista-design.com

**GILBERT RUN TRAIL**

**KEYSHEET**

**PROJECT DATA**

Field No.	Area	Notes
101	101	101
102	102	102
103	103	103
104	104	104
105	105	105
106	106	106
107	107	107
108	108	108
109	109	109
110	110	110

**REVISIONS**

No.	Date	Description
1	10/1/19	Initial Design
2	10/1/19	Revised Design
3	10/1/19	Final Design



19-AJ08  
SP 012119.dwg  
C-100





## **DEVELOPMENT – FY 20**

**Charles County Government  
Department of Recreation, Parks & Tourism**

**Project: Popes Creek Waterfront Phase II  
Construction (A&E)**

Funding requested to cover the initial costs of building evaluation and architecture/design services related to the conversion of the restaurant property at Popes Creek.

Plans for this property include a Visitors Center, restrooms, parking area, Watermen's Heritage Museum and crabbing/fishing pier.

**Total Project Cost: \$60,000.00**

(Requesting \$45,000 POS funding to match \$15,000 Local Share)

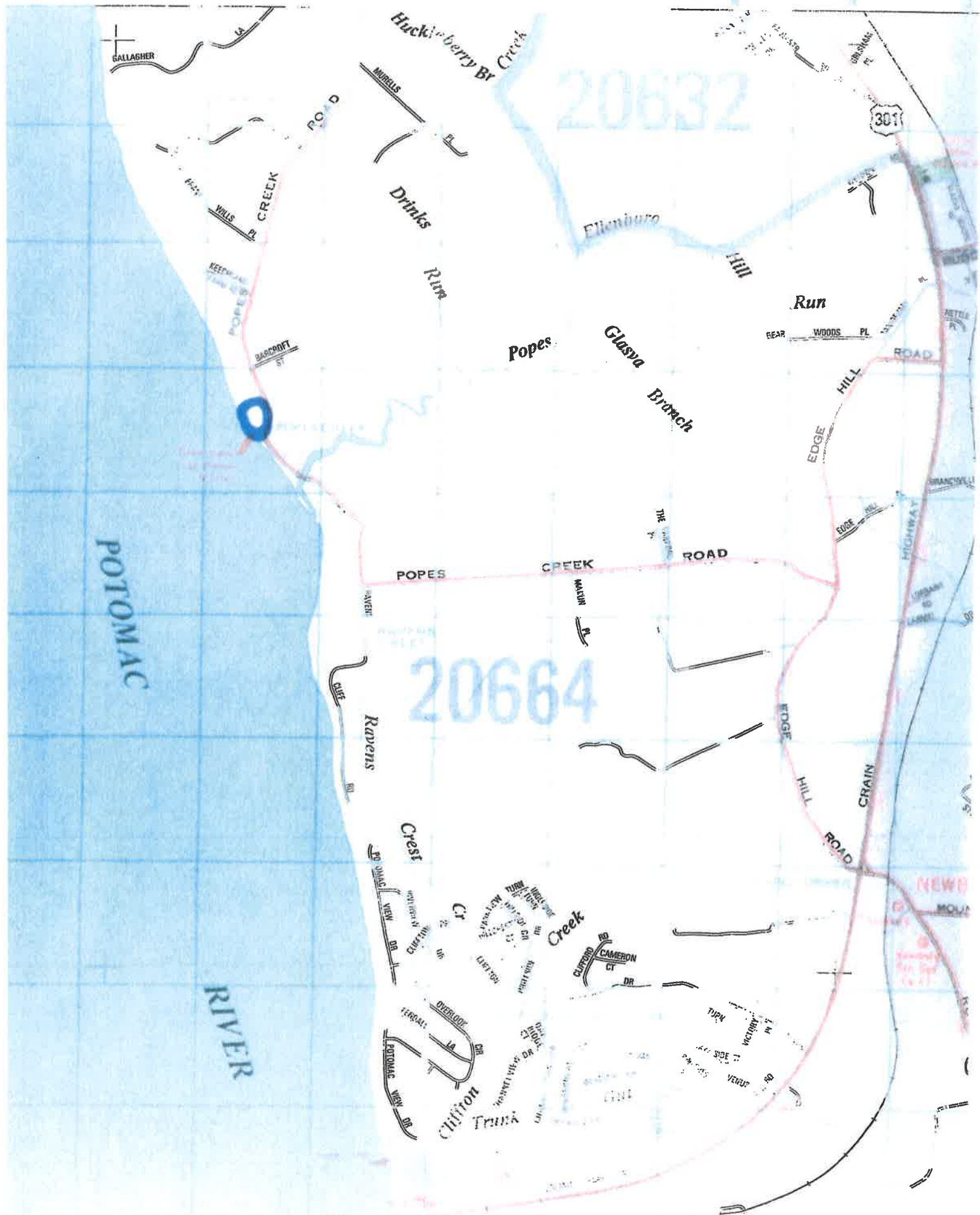


800,000 FT 0"

# Popes Creek Waterfront DEVELOPMENT

810,000 FT

76°57'30"



Google Maps

Popes Creek Waterfront DEVELOPMENT



Imagery ©2017 Google, Map data ©2017 Google 200 ft

## **DEVELOPMENT – FY 20**

**Charles County Government  
Department of Recreation, Parks & Tourism**

**Project: Playground Revitalization Program**

Funding requested to enhance and replace playground equipment at various Charles County park locations.

Many of our County parks have aging playground equipment which is in poor condition. This equipment is in need of upgrading and replacement.

Total Project Cost (Construction): \$300,000.00

(Requesting \$225,000 POS funding to match \$75,000 Local Share)



## PLAYGROUND REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

### PROJECT BREAKDOWN: FY 20

#### GILBERT RUN PARK (1)

- Add additional nature/adventure themed play equipment and seating amenities to the Zip-line area

#### LAUREL SPRINGS PARK (2)

- Add ADA/inclusive swings and equipment to the existing play area

#### RUTH B SWANN PARK (3)

- Replace existing playground shade structure (pavilion)
- Install new equipment in empty section (old/obsolete equipment was removed in 2018)
- Install fiber surfacing in old/empty play area

#### SOUTHERN PARK (4)

- Replace aging play equipment unit.

